

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 /010 W
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R 241521Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4693
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS LAGOS 5690

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, NI
SUBJECT: FORD FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

REF: A) LAGOS 4844, B) STATE 104175, C) DAKAR 2702

1. THOUGH FORD FOUNDATION DIRECTOR GAMBLE STILL ON LEAVE, ACAO HAD CORDIAL 30 MINUTE MEETING WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR RALPH HARBISON WHO APPEARED WILLING DISCUSS IN GENERAL TERMS FORD FOUNDATION'S WEST AFRICAN PROGRAM. THROUGHOUT INTERVIEW, HARBISON WAS NOT ONLY CORDIAL, BUT SEEMED PLEASED EXPLAIN/DISCUSS FOUNDATION AFRICAN OPERATIONS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUERRY ABOUT FORD FOUNDATION US GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS IN AGRONOMY AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, HARBISON REPLIED HE UNAWARE ANY OFFER/ADVERTISEMENT FOR SUCH SCHOLARSHIPS. HE SAID "WE DON'T OPERATE THAT WAY," BUT SUGGESTED ANNOUNCEMENT COULD HAVE COME DIRECTLY FROM AN INSTITUTION/ORGANIZATION CONDUCTING FORD FINANCED PROGRAM. HE EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS CONSIDER AND DISCUSS SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR AGRONOMY AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, IF NEED AROSE.

3. FROM FOREGOING, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT HARBISON IN PARTITULAR, AND FORD FOUNDATION LAGOS IN GENERAL, NOT AT ALL RELUCTANT DISCUSS PROJECTS. NOR DOES IT APPEAR FROM EVIDENCE CONTAINED THIS MESSAGE THAT FOUNDATION IS "SUSPICIOUS" OUR INTEREST THEIR PROGRAM.

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